

COMMENTING ON A DOCUMENT

1) Identifying

This text
article
advertisement is extracted
an extract
a passage from a newspaper / magazine
a novel / short story
a leaflet / folder published / issued in ...

2) Presenting

From
Judging from
Given the title / subtitles / caption
its surroundings (*cadre*), its layout (*mise en page*)
the way it is presented, we may infer
assume
deduce that this *document* is ...
is going to be about...

3) Describing

WHAT ? The *document* is about
The *document* deals with a crucial
major
topical
controversial question
problem
issue
matter

WHERE ? The **setting** is / was
The **incident** took place in
The **event** occurred in
The **scene** takes place in a street
a school
a county
a town ...

WHEN ? The incident took place
The event occurred recently
long ago
last year (week / month / summer...)
during the...
in 1998...

4) Composition / Organisation

This document falls into
is divided into
is composed of X parts,
paragraphs,
items, the first
second
third deals with...
is about...
is based on...

5) Planning / Linking

a) As an introduction... First of all... Secondly (then)... Last of all... / Finally... As a conclusion...
b) then... now... also... besides... next... thus...
on the one hand... on the other hand yet... as a result / therefore / so...

6) Comparing

Compared
In comparison
In contrast with... Similarly,
In the same way,
By the same token, one could say that... Unlike what we have seen,
Contrary to what we saw,
Instead of, this is...

7) Opinions

a) My feeling is (that)... I think (that)... I would tend to think (that)...
b) I'm sure (that)... I believe (that)... I'm convinced (that)... There's no doubt that...
c) I agree with... I disagree with... I don't agree with...

8) Paradox

Although (even though)
Despite the fact that
In spite of the fact that... he is...

9) Concluding

As a conclusion, we can say...
Drawing a conclusion, it seems...
What matters most is...

10) From Probability to Eventuality

undoubtedly surely certainly probably presumably possibly maybe perhaps hardly ever

11) Frequency adverbs

always usually frequently often occasionally sometimes seldom rarely never